

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
)	
Francois Moutel et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3729
)	
Application No.: 10/577,554)	Examiner: Thiem D. Phan
)	
Filed: April 28, 2006)	Confirmation No.: 2258
)	
For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING)	
AN ELECTRONIC KEY WITH USB)	
CONNECTOR AND ELECTRONIC)	
KEY OBTAINED)	

Response to Restriction Requirement

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Official Action of October 2, 2008, indicates that the claims in this application are directed to two different Groups, and requires election one of the Groups. As identified in the Official Action, the different Groups are as follows:

Group I, recited in Claims 1-9, drawn to a method for manufacturing a USB electronic key; and

Group II, recited in Claims 10-14, drawn to an electronic key.

Applicants hereby elect Group I, recited in Claims 1-9, with traverse.

The traversal is on the grounds that the Official Action fails to set forth the requisite unity of invention analysis required by PCT Rule 13.2. The Official Action's holding of lack of unity of invention appears to hinge on the belief that the subject matter common to the two groups of claims is well-known. However, there is no explanation as to the basis for this belief. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the lack of unity requirement is improper and should be withdrawn, and respectfully request that Claims 1-14 all be examined on their merits.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the Examiner is kindly invited to call the undersigned counsel for Applicants regarding the same.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: November 3, 2008

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